

FOR PRESIDENT.
HENRY CLAY,
OF KENTUCKY.

Dem. Whig General Committee.—A Special Meeting of this Committee will be held at the Broadway House, on Friday evening, Dec. 16, at seven o'clock.
J. H. HOSKINS, Chairman.
J. H. HOSKINS, Secretary.
J. H. HOSKINS, Secretary.

Our friends who design to favor us with their advertisements will please bear in mind that our terms are CASH, and however unpleasant it may be for us to refuse, we cannot permit this rule to be infringed. Our Ledger is full, and we have no Collector.

The City News is unavoidably crowded out.

The letter of our Philadelphia Correspondent is unavoidably crowded out this morning.

The Press and the Law of Libel—The Cooperstown Decision.

We trust no one has understood us as complaining of any special hardship in our trial for Libel at Ballston. We meant nothing like this. As we have already said, we were treated as well as any other Editors who have had the misfortune to be sued by Mr. J. Fenimore Cooper for speaking their mind of him. True, it did not seem possible to us beforehand that any Judge could take the view of the facts in our case that Judge Willard actually did take, and without which he could not have instructed the Jury to bring in exemplary damages. But that is our personal misfortune or mistake. And the like has happened to litigants many times before, and will many times again. It is to the general doctrines laid down and insisted on by the Courts, in this and similar cases, that we desire to call attention; and to this end we invite attention to a turn of the screw which was given at Cooperstown a month or two since, when the last previous instalment of the Cooper Fund was tried out of Thurlow Weed. We wanted to speak of this at the time; but as we had a similar case coming on in the next Circuit, we thought it more decorous to wait. Let us now state the facts:

Some Country paper had made a statement with regard to Fenimore's conduct at Fonda at the time he obtained his \$400 judgement by inquest against Mr. Weed, stating particularly that Mr. Cooper did this and so, and thence drawing the conclusion that 'a man who would do thus and so must be more savage than a Mingo,' or words to that effect, referring to some of Mr. Cooper's ferocious Indian characters. Mr. Weed copied this paragraph into the Journal, was thereupon sued, and the plaintiff declared on the words we have placed in Italics, and Mr. Weed pleaded Justification. Such was substantially the case.

Now under his plea of Justification (which admits and aggravates the libel charged, but is held to give the widest range of proof), Mr. Weed offered to show that Mr. Cooper did this and so, and so, and that, consequently, the inference could not be malicious, but an honest burst of indignation provoked by the conduct of Fenimore himself. But the Judge ruled out all this testimony—deciding that the premises, if established, did not justify the inference—and, therefore, falling under the head of irrelevant testimony, must be excluded! So here was the forlorn defendant, after pleading Justification, aggravating his alleged offence in order to get in the facts of the case, not allowed to put in the first word! He was required to justify; but how could he upon any possible state of facts? He was held *prima facie* guilty of libel in saying, in substance, "A man who would sue another for defamation, and push on the cause to trial in the defendant's absence on the second day of term, while he knows that the defendant is kept away by the dangerous illness of his wife and daughter—why, such a man must be worse than a savage!" Well: he offers to prove what he has charged; but how? The Judge says he shall not be allowed to prove that the plaintiff did push his case to trial, as stated, in the absence of the defendant, and that that absence was really caused by the severe illness of his wife and the dangerous state of his daughter. Well, then, how is he to justify? What is he to justify? Why the conclusion, that such a man must be a savage. But this was based on the premises already cited, and on these he relies to justify it. The only possible way in which the conclusion could be justified is by the premises, and these he must not show. How, then, are the Jury to determine whether the conclusion were or were not legitimate? How shall they decide the case when they are not permitted to know any thing about it? The Court settles the whole matter. It first declares that the matter charged is a libel, and the plaintiff must be put on his justification; he offers to justify, and the Court again decides that his premises do not warrant his conclusion, and must not be put in to explain it. He is gagged, bound, and laid under the table, while twelve men sit upon him to determine, not whether what he said was properly called forth by the plaintiff's conduct, for that is not allowed to be shown; but how great damages they can be ringbolted to give, in a state of most blissful ignorance of the whole matter at issue. The trial of course is a farce, or rather a sacrifice, in which the victim is inevitably doomed from the outset; the only question being whether he shall be emboweled or only skinned. As he has aggravated his guilt by attempting to justify, the former is the more probable result.

And this answers the common inquiry—Why don't you justify on one of these cases? The simple answer is that no state of facts will be allowed to form a justification. We state certain things which A. B. has done which seem to me very mean, and I say they are mean. He sues us for libel, and declares on our expression of opinion. We undertake to justify, and the Court stops us: "You can't give that in evidence, sir!—if it is all true, it doesn't prove that A. B. was mean." "Yes; I understand that to be your Honor's opinion; but that is the issue we are trying. I have called this man mean; he sues me for a libel upon it; and I want to show to the Jury that he may be mean, which of course rebuts any presumption of malice. These facts convinced me that he was mean; I think they will convince the Jury that I was right, if you will let me offer them." "Shut up!" is thundered from the Bench; "have not I told you that no such testimony could be received? You are only showing malice and aggravating damages by offering it." So the defendant has nothing to do but fold his robes around him and die with decency.

The fundamental, fatal vice in this procedure, as we think the reader will have perceived, was made when any such expression of opinion was allowed to be treated as a libel at all. That step taken, all evil and oppression follow in its train, and each new decision is a fresh outrage, aggravating error into wrong and injustice into tyranny. There must be some remedy for this misapplication of law, or the Press becomes the crouching slave of every vice, a spaniel at the feet of inhumanity and villany.

JOHN C. CALHOUN retires from Congress on the 4th of March expressly to go into training for the next President. The Charleston Mercury, the leading and able oracle of Calhounism, says: "After the 4th of March, when his resignation takes place, he will have been placed so fully before the Union as the chosen candidate of a very large, and well-beloved, and efficient class of the people, as to render it delicate and proper to abstain from the conflict of the Senatorial arena, in which efficient as he must be under any circumstances, his efficiency would be somewhat impaired by the fact of his being a recent, tried and avowed candidate, and as such, obnoxious to imputations, however unjust, of a selfish ambition to move every man, who will retire on the 4th of March, having done more than any man in the Union to establish the Democratic party in its present triumphant position—by having done more than any man in that party to identify Democracy with the great principles which alone can ensure its permanent ascendancy, and without which, mere party would prove to us of the South, a barren sceptre, and worse, a bitter scourge. We expect it of the Democracy of the Union, that they will secure their conquest by entrusting its consummation to the signal administrative ability of him who has done most in its achievement; and we expect from our own State and Legislature, that while pronouncing our 'well done' to this good and faithful servant, Carolina shall bid him God-speed in the wider career to which the justice of the Union is inviting him, and while accepting his resignation, give prompt and warm utterance to that preference, which, as we are well known to entertain, there can be neither indelicacy nor impolicy, now, for us to avow and champion before the world."

NORTH CAROLINA.—The vote in the Legislature for U. S. Senator at the three latest ballots heard from stood as follows:

	4th.	5th.	6th.
William A. Graham, (Whig)	118	127	134
Bedford Brown, (Van Buren)	56	68	68
John M. Saunders, (Calhoun)	37	43	45

(Mr. Graham is the present Senator; Mr. Brown was his predecessor; Mr. Saunders now represents the Raleigh District in Congress.)

We trust the Whigs who are sliding off to the Calhoun candidate know why they do it. It is generally a safe course to vote for the man you want elected.

Mr. Calhoun is undoubtedly stronger than Van Buren in North Carolina, and will have the vote of the State for a nomination, though the Legislature wears a different complexion.

GEORGIA.—We place on record the vote for U. S. Senator at the late election:

	Ballot 1st.	2d.	3d.	4th.
Walter T. Colquitt, (Calhoun)	118	127	134	141
Charles J. Jenkins, (Whig)	56	68	68	68
Alfred Iverson, (Van Buren)	37	43	45	45
Thomas Butler King, (Whig)	0	0	0	0
Scattering	12	12	12	12

Mr. Colquitt is a Member of the present House, formerly a Methodist clergyman of eminent ability.

We found time, during our recent visit to Saratoga at the urgent solicitation of our friend Fenimore Cooper, (the visit, mind,) to read the new story of 'THE NEIGHBORS,' translated by Mary Howitt from the Swedish of Frederica Bremer; and a better one we have not read in many months. So truthful, so instructive, so high-toned and thoughtful a romance of daily life is rarely found among the treasures of any language, and the translator has done the whole domain of 'Saxendom,' as Carlyle has it, an essential service by rendering it. If perused by every winter-fire-side, its influence in promoting love, peace and joy, with a truer idea of the aims and ends of life, would be most beneficial.

Gen. JACKSON has just written a letter to Moses Dawson of Cincinnati, explaining what he meant when he said in his Bank Veto Message of 1832 that if Congress had applied to him for the plan of a Constitutional Bank, the duty would have been cheerfully performed. He says he meant a Specie Bank—one of limited and guarded powers, which should issue no paper whatever beyond the amount of Specie in its vaults at the time. The General goes in strong for Hard Money, and his party all talk that way. But will they act so? They have now the control of nearly every Legislature—will they proceed to carry out the principles of the 'Independent Treasury' in the several States? Which shall 'set that ball in motion?' South Carolina? New-Hampshire? Missouri? or our own New-York?—Gov. Bouck! what say you? Oh, we are sick and weary of this 'never-ending, still beginning' controversy about 'words, words, words'—these 'glorious victories' which settle nothing and come to nothing. Shall we never bring these Hard Money, anti-Protection patriots to act with some regard to their professions?

EBENEZER BELKNAP, a Revolutionary soldier, died in this city last Thursday, aged 81 years. He was a native of Durham, in Connecticut, but had long been a resident of this city. He had received a classical education, was a zealous Republican of the Jeffersonian school, the principles of which he formerly supported with considerable ability with his pen, being a frequent contributor to the Argus, a paper published in New-York, and also to the Aurora of Philadelphia.

Mr. B. did not think the Loco-Foco doctrine comported with the old Democracy he had imbibed, as it favored the accumulation of power in the Executive, and he adopted Whig principles, or rather recognized in them the principles which he had through half a century defended with sword and pen; in consequence of which, Mr. Hoyt, when he became Collector of this Port, removed him from a place he held in the Custom-House as Weigher; and being for a considerable time out of employ, and having lent money to those who did not choose to repay him, he became straitened in circumstances. Mr. Curtis, on succeeding Hoyt, gave encouragement of restoring him to his former place; but, in consideration of Mr. B.'s age and infirmities, he concluded that he could not justifiably do so. He, however, with some other gentlemen, at his solicitation, contributed pretty liberally to Mr. B.'s necessities. Mr. Belnap was a man of the strictest integrity, and highly esteemed by all who knew him.

Boston, on Monday, elected Whig Charter Officers, by a larger majority than for some time before.

For Mayor, Martin Brimmer, Whig.....\$5,081
Bradford Sumner, Loco.....2,285
Scattering.....732

Brimmer over all others.....2,061
All the Whig Aldermen (8) are elected.
To the Common Council, 32 Whigs and 9 Locos are chosen: 7 no choice.

THE DIFFERENCE.—The Editor of the Cincinnati Republican says:—We have very strong perceptive powers and in the head of Mr. WESTER the reflective organs greatly predominate.—The country now understand the difference between the two.

We understand that one hundred and fifty barrels of flour, shipped from Buffalo to New-York, arrived here day before yesterday via the *Boston and Albany Railroad*, and by vessel from Boston to New-York! A very good route this for New-York Merchants, certainly! O yes!

Isaac Hill contradicts the report that he has been engaged as Assistant Editor of the Madisonian. He wishes to stay and see the fight that is coming off among the Locos in the Granite State.

The Zanesville papers announce the death at that place, on last Sunday week, of Willis Siliman, aged 65 years, long a distinguished member of the Ohio Bar, and brother-in-law to Governor Cass.

The N. Y. Lyceum Lectures.

We regret that we have room for nothing more than a brief notice of the Lecture of GEORGE BANCROFT, Esq. of Boston, last evening, before the New-York Lyceum, upon the early influence of New-York on the Independence of this country; for it embraced a great amount of most valuable information which has never before been laid before the public, and to which he obtained access by that indefatigable and well-directed research through which, in many other ways, he has heretofore done such distinguished service to the History of America. After noticing, as worthy of attention, the fact that for the People of New-York England was not home, as it was for those of the other American Colonies—that they did not come from Great Britain, and owed her no natural allegiance, he said that the restrictive commercial system of England operated upon them with peculiar severity; and that, in consequence of it, in private conversations as early as the middle of the eighteenth century, the Independence of this country was boldly and confidently predicted; and in 1750, a pamphlet, written in this city, warned Sir Henry Pelham, then Prime Minister of Great Britain, that too much care could not be taken lest the Colonies should be weaned from the mother country, and sunder the bonds that kept them together. This thought of Independence had birth in New-York; and in Massachusetts it was later by fifteen years. Men in Europe foresaw it at the same time; and Hutchinson, the greatest moral philosopher of the first half of that century, predicted it, because, he said, every nation had a right to its Independence whenever it became sufficient of itself for all the good ends of political organization.

The rapid increase of population in America too—doubling as they were seen to do in twenty years—taught observers abroad that their independence must be speedily achieved, and called forth the sneer of JOHNSON, who was hired by the Ministry to prove 'Taxation no Tyranny,' that the Americans increased as fast as their own rattlesnakes.—Still these feelings, that America would soon become independent, Mr. BANCROFT said, did not grow out of any idea connected with political rights—for no such were then thought of.

Mr. BANCROFT then described the personal and political characters of the prominent men in England, upon whom devolved the conduct of American affairs.—Sir Henry Pelham, who always preferred a tolerable peace to a successful war, and who would not rebellion, had his counsel prevailed; he suffered a rebellion of the colonists to break out—the Duke of Newcastle, First Secretary of State, and thus Superintendent of the Board of Trade, obtaining and holding a vast political influence by his great estates, abounding in professions extravagant but worthless, destitute of pride but of infinite self-love, timorous, rambling and wordy in debate—rushing boldly into embarrassment and dismayed at the troubles in which he was thus involved.—to such hands were American interests entrusted—to men hopelessly ignorant of American affairs, inquiring with anxious concern on one occasion 'where Annapolis was,' and suffering whole realms of petitions from America to lie unopened, while they were ever active in extending the royal prerogative over the colonies. So profoundly ignorant were they of every thing relating to America, that they seemed sometimes to believe the country a cluster of islands: and the Duke of Newcastle was very in doubt whether Jamaica was in the Mediterranean or perchance the Baltic Sea. Letters, said Mr. Bancroft, were often received addressed to the Governor of the island of New England!

The Duke of Newcastle was succeeded by the Duke of Bedford—honest, but not clear-headed; and inflexible, even to obstinacy. At the head of the Board of Trade was the Earl of Halifax—a man of moderate sense, but of great application, ambitious and eager to bring British America entirely under his control. In June, 1749, Charles Townsend was made a member of the Board, a young man of unbounded ambition, great industry, zealous for the glory of England—and careless alike of the principles of equal justice and of civil freedom.

These were the men who sought to subject the American Colonies entirely to the royal will.—Upon the peace of Aix la Chapelle, the commercial system, so oppressive to New-York, was put in force. The colonies had great natural wealth, but Parliament crippled their industry. They had an abundance of pasture, but their manufactures were crushed. Their forests supplied all Europe with furs, and yet they were not allowed to make hats in one Colony to be sold in another. Iron ore they had in abundance, but their skill in working it was not suffered to develop itself, for Charles Townsend procured the enactment of a law, which, while it allowed iron in pigs to be brought from America to England, prohibited in the Colonies the erection of rolling-mills or furnaces for making steel. Wherever such existed they were declared to be nuisances, and by government order they were to be *abated*. This was the first step of the statesmanship of Charles Townsend.

The next bore still more heavily upon New-York. She had before enjoyed a large trade with the West India Islands, in sugar and molasses, and a plan was laid and carried into effect whereby her trade with the French, Spanish and Dutch West Indies was greatly limited, and this worked a serious evil to her interests. A still greater was sustained from a clause introduced into a bill, to inhibit the issue of Colonial paper money, giving to all royal orders in the British colonies and the American plantations the force of Statute Law! Against this outright establishment of despotism in America, New-York and other colonies loudly protested: and here begins the first great collision between England and her colonies, and it began in New-York.—The enforcement of this Law by the Governor of New-York was steadily resisted by the Assembly, and the Governor was forced to yield.

Still the purpose was not given up. Pownall came to New-York as Governor, at the very time when FRANKLIN, the true parent of American Liberty, hinted at a union of the Colonies. The Governor even then repeatedly told Hutchinson that Independence was near at hand; but the latter thought this quite impossible, though he soon found out his mistake. On the 6th of April, 1754, Townsend retired from the Board of Trade. In 1761, after the accession of George III., he was appointed Secretary of War, then a highly important post; and on the 1st of March, 1763, he was suddenly transferred to the head of the Board of Trade, a station which he held but fifty days—though those days were most eventful for England, for America, and for the world.

A year or two passed away, and Sir Danvers Osborne was appointed Governor. And then a law was framed, under the advice of Charles Townsend, as he himself has boasted, for raising a permanent revenue from the Colonies by the *bare authority of the Crown*. The elder Walpole strongly opposed it, but it passed. Gov. Osborne consulted his Council as to whether it could be enforced upon the people of New-York. He was told that it would be impossible; and, lacking fortitude to enter upon a collision with the people, he committed suicide.

The British Minister at this time desired to maintain twenty regiments in America, to keep her in dependence. But this would create twenty Colonels and would thus give twenty Members of Parliament to the Ministry. How to reconcile this to the landed interest of England, to prevent complaints from that quarter, was a problem, for the solution of which Charles Townsend was placed at the head of the Board of Trade. We have the authority of Burke, as well as of letters which Mr. Bancroft said were in his possession, for believing that Townsend then declared as the ground of his scheme, that it was possible to raise revenue from America by the royal prerogative.

The old law, however, for this purpose, had never been executed, and he therefore proposed to change the rate of duty from 6d. to 2d. and then enforce it strictly and thoroughly.

Soon after, in 1764, Grenville came into the Ministry, and he proposed, as a still further means of raising revenue in America, that the West India trade should be granted to the Colonies, but subject to a tax. How was this received in the Colonies? In Massachusetts, with not timidity and submission, to be sure, but with an excess of prudence. James Otis, a man of great enthusiasm of variable temperament, of whom it has been said that 'he wrought with sad sincerity and built better than he knew'—and Hutchinson, a man of the coldest blood, and of great talent for intrigue, induced the Council of Massachusetts to adopt a remonstrance addressed to the House of Commons, in which freedom from taxation is asked as a privilege.

Far otherwise was it received in New-York.—On the 19th of September, 1764, a Committee was appointed to draw up a Protest, and of that Committee William Baird (of whom Mr. Bancroft said he had been able to learn but little) was a member. He drew up the Protest. It was agreed to, and sent to England. It declared boldly and distinctly that England had no right to tax America, and challenged that right openly, alluding to it not at all as a privilege. They at once stepped to the declaration of the right of exemption from Parliamentary taxation, and sent their Protest to Boston. Hutchinson speaks of it as proving that the people of New-York were not only 'ignorant of the forms of such proceedings,' but 'strangers to decency and good manners.'—On reaching England, this remonstrance was suppressed by Grenville, and not allowed even to be laid before the House of Commons.

Coming to the stamp act, Mr. Bancroft said, that in opposition to it Virginia took the lead—though the people throughout the Union were resolved that it should never be carried into effect,—and were ready to dare any danger to prevent it. The first step to defend themselves against it was to render it *unsafe* for any one to accept the office of Stamp-master. In this way Oliver, in Boston, was forced to resign his office in Boston—not was he allowed to send in a written resignation, but was taken out under the Liberty tree and there in the presence of thousands he signed his renunciation of office, and made solemn oath that he would never distribute stamps. And when it was found out that his commission had come, although he had not accepted it, upon a rainy day, he was obliged to march through the muddy streets at the head of some 2000 men, and beneath the dripping boughs of the same tree where he had been hung ineffigly, was forced to repeat his recantation and his oath.

Here in New-York, McEvers was forced to resign his office as stamp-master. The act was to go into effect on the 1st of Nov. The eyes of the Continent were fixed upon New-York, for there was the head-quarters of the British army, two companies of artillery, with ordnance, ammunition, &c., had just arrived, and New-York was the only city on the Continent which had a fort in the heart of the town. The Governor, Sir Henry More, was on his way from England, and Lieut. Gov. Colden acted in his place. He put off to the last moment all action in the matter, and did not, until the 31st of October, take the oath to enforce the law. The Press meantime had vindicated the liberties of the people, the feeling of united opposition to the act pervaded the Continent, and on the 31st of October—the day on which the oath was taken—general meeting of the merchants of New-York was held, and it was resolved to countermand all orders for British Goods, to order no more and to receive none shipped after the 1st of January, unless the Stamp Act should be repealed!

This was signed by about 200 of the principal merchants. On the next day, that on which the act was to go into effect, letters were sent around, and bills were posted at the corners of the streets, denouncing death to every one who should apply for a stamp, or who should cause any delay in public business for want of stamps. At 7 o'clock in the evening, the famous New-York riots occurred, at which two processions, one from the Park, and the other from the Battery, met and insulted the Governor. Men from the country refused to return to their homes until the question should be settled. On the 2d of November, from the balcony of a coffee-house in Wall-street, a paper was read, urging the putting down of the riots; and then uprose Isaac Sears, a self-constituted Tribune of the people, who addressed the crowd, and declared that the stamps must be given up. After much wavering, the Governor yielded and said he would do nothing about it, until Sir Henry More came. The people dispersed quietly, as it was Saturday night, though they were not satisfied. Kept Sunday in peace, and on Monday were 'ready for business' again. McEvers having refused to receive the stamps, the Lieut. Governor finally surrendered the packages containing them to the magistrates of the city; and thus, in a Colony of King George, were the King's stamps surrendered by the King's Governor to magistrates elected by the people!—a thing before without a parallel!

This, said Mr. Bancroft, was the first triumph of the great Revolution.

A meeting was immediately held to choose a Committee of Correspondence with the Colonies; and as membership was a post of danger, no one was found to accept it, till Isaac Sears came forward, three others were associated with him, and letters signed by them were addressed to the Colonies. A few days after this, 1,200 citizens sent instructions to their Representatives, claiming freedom from all taxation except that imposed by themselves, and the right of trial by jury without appeal.

Thus New-York led the way to the repeal of the Stamp Act, which was finally effected through the eloquence of the elder Pitt—an eloquence, said Mr. Bancroft, equal to that of Demosthenes, and far above that of Cicero, whose oratory, compared with that of Pitt, is feeble as is the wit beside the cable along which runs the electric fire from chain to chain.

In the same way Mr. Bancroft traced the opposition of New-York to the law declaring that she should furnish supplies for the British troops—going farther in this than Massachusetts. Townsend again declared that his scheme of revenue was absolutely necessary, and again the subject was brought before the House of Commons. It was determined that New-York should be shorn of her Legislative powers, until she should submit and provide support for the army as required. In this Townsend overcame the opposition both of Burke and Grenville; and Mr. Bancroft read passages from the debates on these questions which he had never before been published in America.

To show how this law was received in New-York, Mr. B. read from a letter of Mr. Livingston a passage declaring that the Colonies had no cause for discouragement—that before seven years should roll round, the corner-stone of the American Republic would be laid. And seven years from that date did see the meeting of the American Congress in Philadelphia.

The Legislature promptly asserted their rights—taking higher ground than had been ever before asserted; and that it could not be annulled by any power, authority or prerogative whatever. They evaded the law requiring supplies for the army by passing a similar law for themselves.

Mr. Bancroft said he would now bring forward a fact in connection with this subject which never before had been published. In 1768 the other colonies agreed to adopt the non-importation law, passed by New-York in 1765, agreeing to import nothing from England, until the stamp act should be repealed. They agreed to forego their business, and let their ships decay, rather than contribute to a commerce which was enslaving the country. The articles which they were to continue to import would not amount to more than one-seventh of what they were before; and now, said Mr. Bancroft, let us see how these promises were kept.

The following table shows the difference between the imports of 1767 and 1768—and thus the manner in which the agreement was observed:

Colonies.	For 1767.	For 1768.
Canada.....	£110,000	£174,000
Carolina.....	302,000	29,000
Florida.....	20,000	58,000
Georgia.....	56,000	4,000
Hudson's Bay.....	5,000	199,000
Pennsylvania.....	432,000	498,000
Virginia & Maryland.....	475,000	207,000
New England.....	419,000	74,000
New-York.....	482,000	74,000

New-York, said Mr. Bancroft, amid loud applause, kept her word to the letter—she fulfilled her covenant to the last iota!

Owing to subsequent causes, which Mr. Bancroft detailed at some length, New-York in 1770, became somewhat less decided. Mr. B. spoke also of the policy of the British Ministers afterwards, of the counsels of Mansfield, which would have ended the whole troubles *sine clade*, and also of the more violent measures of the Duke of Bedford.

In New-York there was little collision; but in Boston the chief struggle occurred. The Boston Port Bill was first passed; and on the 13th of May a ship arrived at New-York, bringing tidings of its enactment. Mr. Bancroft here read an important letter from the Committee of Correspondence in New-York to that in Boston, dated May 15th, before any news from Boston had reached them, announcing that they had heard of the passage of the Bill, declaring that they wanted language to express their abhorrence of the tyranny it displayed, and saying that a "great number of our citizens wish our port to be put into the same state with yours"—that their causes of opposition might be identical, and urging them to adopt such measures as would afford them security and redress. The existence of this important letter, Mr. Bancroft said, had been disputed; but he had been fortunate enough to secure it. It had never before been made public.

Mr. Bancroft read a number of letters drawn from his own collection and never before published, written at the date to which he referred—several of them proposing a general Congress, and all breathing the same spirit of harmony and international sympathy exhibited by that from the Committee of Correspondence in New-York. Thus was it clear that New-York, in the first hour of peril, stepped forward and claimed to share in the danger and destiny of her sisters.

We have given but a meagre outline of this excellent and permanently valuable Lecture; but even the sketch we have presented we are sure will not be without interest. A very large audience was in attendance, and the discourse was received with marked favor and applause. Mr. BANCROFT delivers his second Lecture probably on Monday night. His subject is to be the "Political Condition of the European World prior to the American Revolution."

A BOLD THEFT.—A mahogany show case containing a variety of gold and silver plated spoons, forks, spectacles, &c., was taken from the central door of the Tribune Building (next door to this office) about 4 o'clock last evening, by some bold and dexterous knave. As there were constantly several news boys and others about the door, it is hoped that some one might have noticed the thief, and may give such information as may lead to his detection.

The Jury in the case of Alexander, at Philadelphia, have returned a verdict of "guilty of manslaughter." It is said that eleven of them were for a verdict of insanity, and only gave an after an absence of thirty hours; and that they will unite in petitioning Gov. Porter for a pardon. When the verdict was rendered, the prisoner, and his father, who was present, were deeply affected, and burst into a flood of tears.

The Sixth Anniversary of the Colored Orphans' Asylum was held at the Lyceum, in Broadway, on Monday evening. The attendance was very large, and the exercises highly interesting. The annual report of the Managers, made by Hiram Ketchum, Esq., showed that the number of children now there is 68. A fine building has been erected, though a considerable sum is yet due therefor. The receipts during the year have been \$2,735; the expenditures \$2,702. Addresses were made by Chancellor Frelinghuysen and Dr. J. McCune Smith.

Mr. ELIUS BURRITT lectures this evening at the Rutgers Institute.

We were yesterday honored with a young gentleman, named Stratton, who is 11 years old, 22 inches high, and weighs 15 pounds!—So small a pattern of humanity we never before heard of. He receives visitors at the American Museum.

The pottery of Munroe & Rooney at East Cambridge, Mass., was burned a few days since. Insured for \$1,000.

Capt. Lincoln Turner, of the schooner *Anglona*, was recently knocked overboard while on his passage from Macao to Whampoa, and drowned.

The Slatet Factory belonging to Messrs. Slater, at Slaterville, R. I., was destroyed by fire on the night of the 1st inst. The loss is not mentioned. Insurance to the amount of \$11,000 was effected in the Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company at Worcester.

MELANCHOLY.—A boy five years of age, son of Robert Chandoli, of Montrose, Pa., on Monday last ate a piece of opium which had accidentally got into his dinner basket at school. He was taken ill and died the same evening.

The sale of the late S. D. Langtree's extensive Library will be continued at the sales room of Bangs, Richards & Platt, this evening, when some of the most valuable works in the collection will be sold. We understand among other rare works there will be a copy of Paine's magnificent Book on the Rights of the Colonies.

SANDS'S SARAPARILLA—SCROFULA.—Other diseases have slain their thousands, but Scrofula slays its tens of thousands. This very alarming afflition arises under a great variety of forms, from the slightest deviation from health, and is of local and general character. One of its most common forms is tubercular skin diseases. One of its symptoms of the lungs; diseases of the hip and knee joint, and swellings; also the glands of the neck and other parts of the body. Experience has shown that Sand's Saraparilla is a cure for this most inveterate complaint, and in numerous instances it has brought returning health and life where all other remedies had almost died. From its preparation, and as it is a pure vegetable, it is perfectly safe, and operates by removing in the first place unhealthy action from diseased organs, substituting healthy action in its place, giving tone to the general system, and restoring the system to its curative power, see different advertisements in the daily papers.

Prepared and sold at wholesale and retail, and for export, by A. B. Sands & Co., No. 273 Broadway, (Granite Building), corner of Chambers street, New York. Also sold by A. B. Sands, Druggists, No. 79 and 100 Fulton-st.; and by A. B. Sands, Druggists, No. 77 East Broadway. Price \$1 per bottle, six bottles for \$5.

POST FACTUM NULUM CONSTITUIT.—This is an old Roman adage, and applies with as much force to Peter's Cough Lozenges as any thing in the world can well do. "After the deed is done there is no need of consultation," is a fair translation, and as such should be regarded. We submit it taken by these Lozenges; they will afford certain relief, and as such be most beneficial. But it is not to this remedy alone that we would call public attention—Peter's Cathartic and Health Lozenges are in the complaints of the bowels, liver, &c., beyond praise; they destroy every thing which weakens the stomach and intestines, and should be in the possession of every family. When the bowels are in disorder, the system must be attended to—no such times as the Cathartic or Health Lozenges will be found superior to any other medicine. Principal office 125 Fulton, corner of Nassau street.

NEW YORK MUSEUM.—Signor Bitzi, Miss Clements, and a host of other performers, Dress of Queen Victoria and Duchess of Kent, worn at the marriage and coronation of her majesty, and Picture Gallery, all for one shilling.

A Silence saved is a shilling earned is an old saying, a very true one. Families in want of good Lamp Oil are recommended to call on J. N. Lucky, 76 Front Street, and save their shillings, and get a first rate article. See advertisement.

BY THIS MORNING'S MAIL.

Bankrupt Law.—Mr. Bots—The Secretary of War, &c. &c.
Correspondence of The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 12.
In SENATE, to-day, several petitions were presented, among which was one by Mr. WRIGHT, from merchants of New-York for the passage of a law establishing the Warehousing System.

Mr. TALLMADGE, on leave, introduced a bill amending the acts establishing the Treasury Department. (This is understood not to differ materially from his Exchequer plan of last session.) The bill was twice read and ordered printed.

The President's Message was then taken up and without debate referred to the appropriate committees.

Notices were given by several Senators of the introduction of bills.

The resolution of Mr. TALLMADGE, instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the expediency of directing the Secretary of State to communicate with the proper State authorities for information with regard to the operation of the Bankrupt Law, coming up.

Mr. KING expressed his opposition to it on the ground of the hindrance to business which would be caused by delaying the necessary time for obtaining the necessary information.

Mr. TALLMADGE said the information might perhaps be given immediately; if it was not, and the Senate were disposed to act upon the law, the passage of the resolution would not prevent it.

Mr. CRITTENDEN said it would require considerable time to obtain all the information. He apprehended that public opinion was against the law; that such was the case in his own State he had the strongest evidence. He had formerly in this body favored the passage of such a law, supposing it best fitted to alleviate the condition of the unfortunate debtor, and many of this class had been by it rescued from a bondage otherwise hopeless. That there had been abuses committed under the law he did not doubt, and this was the case with every law. Public opinion was much against it and he should feel constrained to vote for its repeal unless it was so modified as to make it acceptable.

The resolution, having been amended to provide for furnishing the information as fast as received, was adopted.

Mr. BAYARD renewed his proposition for the employment of a corps of reporters by the Senate. The subject lies over.

The bill to repeal the Bankrupt Law was read the second time. Mr. GRAHAM gave notice of an amendment he should offer when in order.

The Senate adjourned.

In the HOUSE, on motion of Mr. FILLMORE, the Committee of Ways and Means were allowed a clerk.